

INVENTORY/REGISTER

To The

Records of The Women's Propeller Club of The United States - Port of New York

April, 1998

Introduction

The Women's Propeller Club of the United States can trace its roots back to 1935. After the annual Convention of the Propeller Club of the United States (which traced its origins informally back to the mid 1920s - see the ARTHUR M. TODE PAPERS), the Ladies Committee of the Club determined to form its own organization. This group was first known as the Women's Organization for the Advancement of the American Merchant Marine, and on December 12, 1935, Mrs. Arthur M. Tode of New York was unanimously elected President. A local chapter or Port was immediately formed, this being the Port of New York, and soon other Ports were established in other parts of the country such, for example, as New Orleans and Savannah. The Women's National American Merchant Marine Organization was founded during the 1945 American Merchant Marine Conference and the 19th Annual Convention of the Propeller Club held in New York City. Eventually, in 1961 the Women's Organization agreed to affiliate with the Propeller Club of the United States and thereafter be known as The Women's Propeller Club of the United States.

Among its several objectives specified in its Constitution (see 1970 Constitution), the Propeller Club wished "To promote, further, and support the American Merchant Marine"; "To aid in any way possible, worthy and justifiable river, inland waterways and harbor improvements". Its regular membership consisted "of women, citizens of the United States of America, who are interested in the advancement of the American Merchant Marine and who have some member of the family directly or indirectly associated with the activities of the American Merchant Marine."

Scope

The records in this Collection are essentially those of Mrs. Filomena Magavero who served the Club as its Secretary during the 1970s and 1980s. They are dated essentially in these same decades. Though these records are, indeed, the records of the local Chapter or Port, as part of the same there will be found documents relating to the National parent organization, these being accumulated during the course of the local Chapter's activities. An example of this type of record would be the National News Bulletin which, of course, was received by officers or other members of the New York Port. Also among the records is found a very small amount of documents relating to three other institutions, namely, the Seamen's Church Institute, the South Street Seaport, and the City Island Historical Society, these organizations, broadly speaking, having allied interests with the Propeller Club. Records in this Collection measure approximately one and a half cubic feet.

Description

Box 1

National Constitution and By-Laws

These are printed booklets (ca. 25 to 30 pages), A related document is found in some years. The following are found:

1970
1974
1978

Standing Rules

These are typed mimeographed working copies, and are for the following years:

National)

1984 (for the Port of New York)
Und (ca. 1980-1985 - for the Port of New York)

1980 (for

Minutes of Meetings of the National Conventions

Conventions of the National organization were held annually. Occasionally, some related document will be found with the minutes such as, for example, financial or other reports in 1974 and the By-Laws of the Propeller Club of the Port of Galveston found among the Minutes of 1979. Regarding the 1977 Convention, there are no Minutes but only some rough notes or related documents. Minutes cover the following conventions.

Meeting held in San Francisco, Oct 10-Oct 12, 1973
Meeting held in New York City, Oct 16-Oct 18, 1974
Meeting held in Fort Lauderdale, Oct 15-Oct 17, 1975
Meeting held in San Diego, Oct 13-Oct 15, 1976
Meeting held in Galveston, Oct 12-Oct 14, 1977
Meeting held in New Orleans, Oct 17-Oct 19, 1979

"National News Bulletin"

These Bulletins, issued by the Parent body, generally consist of about four pages. The following

years are represented.

1972
1973
1974
1975
1976
1980
1981
1982
1984
1991

Minutes of Board Meetings of the Port of New York

These Minutes are of meetings held by the New York Port Executive Board at various times of the year. The following years are found.

1973
1978
1979
1981
1982
1983

"Bulletin"

These Bulletins, issued by the local Port of New York were for the most part were one sheet publications and usually were issued on a monthly basis. From time to time a Notice or Flyer is attached referring to such activities as a luncheon or fund raising event. The following years are represented.

1975
1976
1977
1978
1979
1980

1981

1983
1984
1985
1990
1991
1992

1982

Box 2

Membership Directory

These are either small booklets or typed lists of the Port members, and are for the following years.

1971	1973
1975	
1980	1981
1982	

General Correspondence and Miscellaenous Documents

Correspondence herein is minimal. Most documents consist consist of Notices of meetings and luncheons or other events planned by the Port, and related items. It is possible that some of these documents were issued to accompany the "Bulletin". Among other miscellaneous documents is a Treasurer's report from the National organization (1972); some documents from the Port of Savannah (1977); a List of SUNY Maritime Cadets receiving scholarships of various amounts (donor's name not given) (1984); and a Membership Application form (undated).

1972	
1973	
1974	
1975	
1976	
1977	
1978	1979
1980	

1981
1982
1983
1984
1985
1986
1990
1991
1992
1996
Und

Box 3

President's Annual Report to Port Members

1973/74
1974/75

Constitutional Change Proposals or Discussions

This small file dtd ca. 1976 contains rough notes, copies of proposed change to the Constitution and By-Laws of the National organization; and some correspondence or notes regarding parliamentary procedures as they related to or were discussed by the Port.

Scholarship Fund Materials

In 1976 the Port officially established a Scholarship and Financial Aids Fund to help selected students at Maritime College, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy at Kings Point, and the Webb Institute of Naval Architecture at Glen Cove. This Series consists of rough notes; some background literature on the Kings Point Fund; some financial accounts which list the names of recipients of the Fund; and some correspondence and miscellaneous documents. Files are arranged chronologically except for the Kings Point Fund. 1976 is the the most extensive year.

1976
1977
1978
1982
Kings Point Fund Literature

Seamens' Church Institute Materials

This file consists of a few miscellaenous documents, especially Notices or Newsletters, referring essentially to Christmas gift packages given to disabled or hospitalized seamen. The following years are covered.

1979
1981
1983

South Street Seaport Materials

This file consists of a few issues (Mar, May, Jul, and Sep, 1970) of the "South Sea Reporter"

published by the Seaport.

City Island Historical Society Materials

This small file, dtd ca. 1986, consists essentially of some letter head of the Society, and typed lists of members.

APPENDIX

Photocopy samples of some of the types of documents found in this Collection. National Convention Minutes page has been reduced in size.

LOCATION REGISTER
(for Staff use only)

Box 1

Series - National Convention and By-Laws; Standing Rules; Minutes of Meetings of the National Convention; "National News Bulletin"; Minutes of Board Meetings of the Port of New York; "Bulletin"

No. of Folders - 42

Box 2

Series - Membership Directory; General Correspondence and Miscellaneous Documents

No. of Folders - 26

Box 3

Series - President's Annual Report to Port Members; Constitutional Change Proposals or Discussions; Scholarship Fund Materials; Seamens' Church Institute Materials; South Street Seaport Materials; City Island Historical Society Materials

No. of Folders - 11